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that Dante officiated as their mystagogue in the initiation of "the medium"; for the great Florentine must have sadly degenerated to become a *particeps criminis* in the dictation of verse more inane and puerile than the common run of newspaper poetry.

11.— *The Cruise of the Steam Yacht North Star; a Narrative of the Excursion of Mr. Vanderbilt's Party to England, Russia, Denmark, France, Spain, Italy, Malta, Turkey, Madeira, etc.* By Rev. John Overton Choules, D.D. Boston: Gould & Lincoln. 1854. 12mo. pp. 353.

This is a minute, and we suppose an accurate account, not only of what the author saw in person, but of what, in reference to current notions of clerical decorum, he saw only through the eyes of his travelling companions. It is characterized throughout by vanity and egotism, and indicates no very high standard of refinement or dignity on the part of the writer; but it is so thoroughly good-tempered, and so abounds in tolerant and kindly expressions towards and concerning nations, classes, and individuals, fellow-travellers, hosts, sailors, and servants, as amply to justify Mr. Vanderbilt in devolving upon Dr. Choules not only the chaplaincy, but numerous essential offices appertaining to the comfort and happiness, of his select party.

12.— *The Teacher and the Parent; a Treatise upon Common School Education; containing Practical Suggestions to Teachers and Parents.* By Charles Northend, A.M. New York: A. S. Barnes. 1853. 12mo. pp. 327.

We can only say that there probably lives not the teacher or parent to whom this book might not furnish suggestions worthy his diligent heed and profound gratitude.